

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated May 17, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 13-22 are allowed.

Claims 1, 2, 14 and 16 are hereby amended. Claim 4 is hereby cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 5-22 are pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,300,998 to Aruga (hereinafter "Aruga"). Claims 2 and 4-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 13-22 are allowed.

The rejection of claims 1 and 3 as being clearly anticipated by Aruga is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 is allowable over Aruga in that claim 1 now recites "forming a plurality of individual liquid crystal panels by cutting the first and second substrates after conducting the lighting test." This limitation was previously recited in claim 4. Claim 4, now cancelled, was indicated in the Office Action as containing allowable subject matter. Therefore, Aruga does not teach at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, because Aruga fails to teach this feature of claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and claim 3, which depends therefrom, are allowable over Aruga.

Claims 2 and 4-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Independent claim 1 is herein amended to include the limitations of claim 4 and claim 4 is herein cancelled. Therefore, claims 2 and 5-12 depend from

allowable claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection to claims 2 and 4-12.

Claims 13-22 were indicated as allowed in the Office Action. Therefore, Applicants believe that with the foregoing amendments, the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

The undersigned hereby signs this filing under the authority provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.34 pending the filing of a Power of Attorney and Statement under 3.73(b) executed by Assignee.

Dated: September 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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